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THE WEST LOTHIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

MEDICAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

OF

SCHOOL CHILDREN

FOR THE

Year ending 31st July, 1931

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THE WEST LOTHIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Annual Report on the Medical Inspection and Treatment of School Children for the year ending 31st July, 1931.

1.—LIST OF STAFF.

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER—G. Y. Richardson, M.D., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER—John Hunter, M.B., D.P.H.

ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER—Christa B. Ross, M.B., D.P.H.

DENTIST—Allanwood Neilson, L.D.S.

CLERKES—Marion F. Gillon.

NURSES—Jean Reekie.

Jean MacKinnon.

Christina M. Russell.

Marion Wishart (resigned 20/10/30).

Helen S. Baikie.

Susan Nicol (assumed duty 27/10/30).

Margaret Lumsden (assumed duty 18/5/31).

CHANGE OF STAFF.—Nurse Wishart resigned her appointment in October 1930, and was immediately succeeded by Nurse Nicol. There was a re-allocation of Nurse Baikie's services as from 15th May, 1931, resulting in an approximately equal division of her time between Maternity and Child Welfare (including the supervision of Midwives) on the one hand and School Medical Inspection on the other. To make up for this loss, Nurse Margaret Lumsden was appointed a part-time School Nurse and she commenced duty on the 18th May, 1931. In the part-time staff, Dr. Ogilvy resigned his clinic appointment at Fauldhouse at the commencement of the year under review. No new appointment was made in connection with this clinic as the work therein was taken over by one of the whole-time medical staff.

MEDICAL OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF SCHOOL CLINICS :—

PART-TIME STAFF.

The following is a complete list of medical practitioners employed part time in connection with the treatment of minor ailments in the school clinics :—

Armadale P.S.	...	...	Hugh Somerville, M.B., Ch.B.
Bathgate P.S.	...	...	W.M.B. Rossie, L.R.C.P.&S. (Ed.).
Blackburn P.S.	...	...	Thos. Gilchrist, M.B., Ch.B.
Blackridge P.S.	...	...	W. T. Lindsay, M.B., Ch.B.
Bo'ness Old Academy	...	...	W. A. Shafto, M.D., D.P.H.
Broxburn H.S.	...	...	Alex. Scott, M.D.
Bridgend P.S.	...	...	H. P. Caithness, M.D., D.P.H.
Carriden P.S.	...	...	N. C. Fischer, M.B., Ch.B.
Linlithgow P.S.	...	...	E. E. Candlish, M.B., Ch.B.
Livingston Station P.S.	...	...	J. F. Lang, M.A., M.B., Ch.B.
South Queensferry P.S.	...	...	G. A. Dickson, M.B., C.M.
Uphall P.S.	...	...	R. H. Thomson, M.C., L.R.C.P.&S. (Ed.), L.D.S.
Whitburn P.S.	...	...	Thos. Gilchrist, M.B., Ch.B.
Winchburgh P.S.	...	...	J. Fraser Orr, M.B., Ch.B.

The clinics at Fauldhouse and Stoneyburn Public Schools were supervised during the year by the Medical Officer.

CLINIC NURSES.

Armadale P.S.	...	M. C. Stevenson.
Bathgate P.S.	...	Jeanie P. Pollock.
Blackburn P.S.	...	Margaret Ellis.
Blackridge P.S.	...	Sarah A. McAlpine.
Bridgend P.S.	...	Susan F. Campbell.
Carriden P.S.	...	J. Macallister.
Fauldhouse P.S.	...	Mary Christie
Linlithgow P.S.	...	Catherine McLean.
Livingston Station P.S.	...	Margaret Wilson.
So. Queensferry P.S.	...	Mary W. M'Culloch.
Stoneyburn P.S.	...	J. Mackenzie.
Uphall P.S.	...	A. K. Scott.
Winchburgh P.S.	...	L. Bennett.

The following three Clinics continue to be served by the whole-time Nurses employed by the Education Committee :—

Bo'ness Old Academy	Helen S. Baikie.
Broxburn H.S.	Jean MacKinnon.
Whitburn P.S.	Jean Reekie.

2.—SCHOOLS.

(a) There are 47 schools in the County, of which 7 are Roman Catholic in denomination. There is thus no change from last year.

(b) The average number of children on the register for the year is 16,501, and the number in average daily attendance, 15,348 (93·0 per cent). The diminution in the school population, which has been the feature of the last four years, has been arrested and this year's figure shows an increase of 61 pupils over last year. There is again a considerable increase in the attendance per centage amounting to 1·4 over last year and constituting a record for the county. The figures for the last five years are as follows :—

Session.	On Roll.	% Attendance.
1926-27	17,090	91·1
1927-28	16,766	91·1
1928-29	16,570	90·9
1929-30	16,440	91·6
1930-31	16,501	93·0

3 and 4.—VISITS AND SPECIAL VISITS.

The number of visits to schools amounted to a total of 868. Routine visits numbered 501 and special visits 367. In addition 327 visits (including 24 complete days spent in the office by the Medical Officer mainly in connection with the compilation of the Annual Report), of varying length of time were made to the office for administrative duties.

5.—SANITARY CONDITIONS OF SCHOOLS.

Full reports are made at regular intervals to the Committee by the Master of Works regarding the sanitary conditions of the schools. In practically all the schools such conditions are fairly satisfactory, but special action had to be taken in connection with the state of cleanliness of the Infant School at Blackburn. Considerable improvement was thereby effected, but a complete reconstruction of the latrines would appear to be advisable as soon as financial conditions permit.

6. ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

(a) SYSTEM OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.—The system detailed on page 6 of the Report for the year ending 31st July, 1922, was con-

tinued during the year and the following groups of children underwent a systematic medical examination :—

- (1) Entrants, *i.e.*, children entering upon school life for the first time since the previous corresponding visit of the Medical Officer.
- (2) Junior Pupils, *i.e.*, children born between 1/8/23 and 31/7/24—those who attained the age of 7 during the year.
- (3) Intermediate Pupils, *i.e.*, children born between 1/8/21 and 31/7/22—those who became 9 during the year.
- (4) Leavers, *i.e.*, children born between 1/8/17 and 31/7/18—those who became 13 during the year.
- (5) Advanced Pupils, *i.e.*, children born between 1/8/15 and 31/7/16—those who became 15 during the year.
- (6) Secondary Pupils, *i.e.*, children born between 1/8/14 and 31/7/15—those who became 16 during the year.
- (7) Students in their 4th, 5th and 6th years of study. This group was examined twice during the year.

In addition to the above, in schools of approximately 150 pupils, the examination is extended to include everyone. This applies to 19 out of the 47 schools in the county.

Special attention is drawn to the importance of the fact that the Education Committee's Scheme of Medical Inspection as outlined above insures the routine medical examination of every child at least three times in the first $4\frac{1}{2}$ years of school life. These years are, after the pre-school years, the most important years in a child's life from the health point of view.

The foregoing work, along with duties arising therefrom, constitutes the main part of the activities of the medical department. The visitation of the schools was carried out on the same lines as were indicated in the Report for the year ending 31st July, 1924, page 8.

(b) SCHOOL NURSES.—(1) Up to the 15th May, 1931 there were five whole-time Nurses in the employment of the Committee. On that date, half of the time of one nurse was transferred to the Health Department of the County Council and another nurse was appointed on a half-time basis to make good the deficiency. The services of one nurse continued to be completely devoted to duty with the dentist.

(2) The duties of the nurses remain as outlined in previous reports. Their work in connection with applications for relief continued and occupied a considerable amount of time, as may be

readily understood when it is mentioned that these applications concerned in this particular year no fewer than 1500 children. Reports regarding relief have already been given to the Committee by the Director of Education.

(c) ARRANGEMENTS FOR "FOLLOWING-UP."—See Report for year ending 31/7 20, page 6.

(d) SUPERVISION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.—All cases of Infectious Disease occurring among children of school age are notified by the attendance officers and this information is forwarded daily to the County Medical Officer.

(e) CO-ORDINATION WITH THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.—See Reports for years ending 31/7/24, pages 8 and 9, and 31/7/29, page 5, as modified by the terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act, 1929.

(f) PRESENCE OF PARENTS AT MEDICAL INSPECTION.—It has again to be reported that it is mainly the parents of the Entrants who accompany their children at the examination and that there is the usual progressive diminution in such attendance as the children proceed through school. Special interviews with parents continued to be arranged when necessary and were invariably advantageous.

7.—THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

(a) Total number of children examined :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
(i) Systematic or Routine Examinations	3300	3375	6675
* (ii) Special Examinations	519	549	1068
(iii) Re-Examinations...	2215	2218	4433
Grand Totals	6034	6142	12176

* (Exclusive of the examination of children suspected to be mentally defective for which see Table (g), page 19.

In addition to the above work, Secondary Pupils in their 4th, 5th and 6th years of study were examined twice during the year. The numbers of such examinations amounted to 388. These pupils were generally found to be of good physique, sound in health and quite fit for the strenuous work they were undertaking.

(b) Number of children notified to parents as having one or more defects :—

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Systematic Cases	554	601	1155
Special Cases	168	184	352

(Exclusive of Mentally Defective Children).

The foregoing figures refer solely to work carried out by the Medical Officers personally. The following details refer to work carried out by the School Nurses during the course of their duties in following up cases found to be defective. The total number of examinations and re-examinations made by them in schools amounted to 7710. In addition, they made 1019 home visits in cases where these were found to be necessary or desirable, and acted as escort to children attending one or other of the three eye clinics in the county on 38 occasions. They also reported regarding the condition of 1500 children on whose behalf application for relief had been made by their guardians—a very great increase as compared with the previous year's figures—855.

(c) Number of children receiving attention (excluding cases of defective teeth).—Over 89 per cent. of the children notified to their parents as requiring medical or parental attention were found to have received attention. A note of the operations which have been performed as a result of notices sent from this office is included on page 34 of this report.

(d) CLOTHING.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.							SPECIAL CASES.		
	No. Examined.	Insufficient		In need of Repair.		Dirty.		Insufficient.	In need of Repair.	Dirty.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			
Boys	3300	...	...	12	...	20	...	...	3	12
Girls	3375	2	...	1	...	14	...	4	1	4
Totals	6675	2	·02	13	·19	34	·50	4	4	16

RELIEF DETAILS.

		ROUTINES.	SPECIALS.
		No. Granted.	No. Granted.
Boys	...	419	409
Girls	...	361	311
Totals	...	780	720

(e) FOOTGEAR.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.			SPECIAL CASES.
	No. Exam- ined.	Number Unsatisfactory.	%	Number Unsatisfactory.
Boys	3300	43	...	18
Girls	3375	25	...	11
Totals	6675	68	1·01	29

(f) AVERAGE HEIGHTS AND WEIGHTS.

	Number Measured.	Average Age.		Average Height (inches).	Average Weight (pounds).
		Years.	Months		
Boys ...	93	4	9	41·79	40·82
	683	5	5	42·78	42·39
	426	6	6	45·34	47·51
	405	7	3	46·94	50·81
	362	8	8	49·68	58·11
	435	9	3	50·84	60·89
	432	12	7	57·10	81·68
	286	13	2	58·53	86·34
	56	14	8	62·85	103·51
	84	15	4	65·07	116·79
	6	16	-	68·16	121·16
Girls ...	72	4	9	41·51	39·75
	739	5	5	42·32	40·68
	436	6	6	44·74	44·66
	450	7	3	46·21	47·88
	342	8	8	49·28	55·44
	493	9	3	50·47	57·76
	441	12	7	57·65	82·17
	268	13	2	59·27	88·26
	43	14	8	62·11	103·41
	56	15	5	63·32	111·53
	6	16	-	64·66	130·66

(h) CONDITION OF SKIN.

		SYSTEMATIC CASES.												SPECIAL CASES.					
		Head.						Body.						Head.					
No. Exam- ined.		R.		L.		F.		O.D.		R.		L.		S.		O.D.		R.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Boys ...	3300	...	...	49	...	1	...	14	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	8	...	...	...
Girls ...	3375	...	...	31	...	...	...	17	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	10	...	...	...
Totals	6675	...	...	80	1·19	1	·01	31	·46	2	·02	1	·01	2	·02	18	·26	...	...

Note. -- R = Ringworm. I = Impetigo Contagiosa. F = Favus. S = Scabies. O.D. = Other Skin Diseases.

(i) NUTRITION.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.										SPECIAL CASES.
	No. Exam- ined.	Above Average.		Average.		Below Average.		Mal- nutrition.		Malnu- trition.	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%		
Boys	3300	699	...	2321	...	269	...	11	...	...	...
Girls	3375	612	..	2324	...	396	...	43	...	4	...
Totals	6675	1311	19·62	4645	69·58	665	9·96	54	·80	4	...

(j) TEETH.

		SYSTEMATIC CASES.										SPECIAL CASES.
		No. Exam- ined.	Teeth Sound.		1 to 4 Decayed.		5 and more Decayed.		Oral Sepsis.		Oral Sepsis.	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	
Boys	...	3300	818	...	1773	...	709	...	18	...	...
Girls	...	3375	862	...	1818	...	695	...	22	...	...
Totals		6675	1680	25·16	3591	53·79	1404	21·03	40	·59	...	

(ka) NOSE.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.							SPECIAL CASES.		
	No. Exam- ined.	Catarrh.		Obstruc- tion.		Other Diseases.		Ca- tarrh.	Ob- struc- tion.	Other Dis- eases.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%			
Boys	3300	84	...	18	...	2	...	3	4	2
Girls	3375	72	...	17	...	5	...	...	9	1
Totals.	6675	156	2·33	35	·52	7	·10	3	13	3

Nasal Catarrh was found to be increasingly prevalent as compared with previous years, particularly among the youngest groups of children—possibly the aftermath of the very large number of cases of infectious disease in the preceding year.

(kb) THROAT.

		SYSTEMATIC CASES.										SPECIAL CASES.				
		Tonsils.				Adenoids.				Other Diseases.		Tonsils.		Adenoids.		Other Diseases.
No. Examined.		S.E.		M.E.		P.P.		P.				S.E.		P.P.		
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.
Boys ...	3300	371	...	160	...	65	...	1	...	2	...	4	27	8	2	1
Girls ...	3375	404	...	183	...	62	...	...	...	...	...	5	21	8	...	1
Totals	6675	775	11.61	343	5.13	127	1.90	1	.01	2	.02	9	48	16	2	2

Note.—S.E. = Slight Enlargement. M.E. = Marked Enlargement. P.P. = Probably Present. P. = Present.

(ke) LYMPHATIC GLANDS.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.										SPECIAL CASES.			
	No. Exam- ined.	P. E.		M. E.		S.		C.		C.	P. E.	M. E.	S.	C.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%					
<i>Submaxillary Glands.</i>														
Boys	3300	47	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Girls	3375	48	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Totals	6675	95	1.42	1	.01	...	...	4	.05	...	...	...	1	...
<i>Cervical Glands.</i>														
Boys	3300	547	...	5	...	1	...	36	...	...	3	...	...	...
Girls	3375	590	...	4	...	...	...	38	...	...	5	...	...	...
Totals	6675	1137	17.03	9	.13	1	.01	74	1.10	...	8	...	...	...

Note.—P. E. = Palpable Enlargement. M. E. = Marked Enlargement. S. = Suppurating.

C. = Cicatrices (Scars of old-standing disease or operations).

(2) EXTERNAL EYE DISEASES.

		SYSTEMATIC CASES.										SPECIAL CASES.					
		No. Exam- ined.	Blepharitis		Conjunctivitis.		Corneal Opacities.		Squint.		Other Diseases.	Blephar- itis.	Conjunc- tivitis.	Corneal Opac.	Squint.	O. D.	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%							
Boys	...	3300	40	...	12	...	2	...	74	...	15	..	8	4	...	7	2
Girls	...	3375	34	...	11	...	5	...	84	..	15	...	6	1	...	14	1
Totals		6675	74	1·10	23	·34	7	·10	158	2·36	30	·44	14	5	...	21	3

(m) VISUAL ACUITY.

		SYSTEMATIC CASES.							SPECIAL CASES.	
		No. Exam- ined.	Good Vision 6/6		Fair Vision 6/9 & 6/12		Bad Vision 6/18 & worse		6/9 & 6/12	6/18 & worse
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.
Boys	...	2447	2224	...	166	...	57	...	15	34
Girls	...	2488	2192	...	213	...	83	...	20	45
Totals	...	4935	4416	89·48	379	7·67	140	2·83	35	79

An analysis of the cases in which refractions were undertaken by Dr. Ross in one or other of the eye clinics in the County is given on page 31 of this report.

With regard to the technical training of blind adults, at the commencement of the year under review 12 men and 1 woman were being maintained and educated in the appropriate department of the Royal Blind Asylum and School, Edinburgh. One woman was admitted during the year and, as there were no discharges, there are now 12 men and 2 women receiving training under the auspices of the Education Committee. It is to be noted however, that in the cases of 2 of the men, training has been temporarily discontinued owing to illness.

In the elementary school of the same Institution, at the beginning of the year, 1 boy and 4 girls were being maintained and educated by the Committee. One girl was admitted, 2 discharged, and thus at the end of the year, 1 boy and 3 girls are still in residence.

(n) EARS.

		SYSTEMATIC CASES.							SPECIAL CASES.		
		No. Exam- ined.	Otorrhœa.		Wax.		Other Diseases.		Otorr- hœa.	Wax.	O.D.
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.	No.
Boys	...	3300	30	...	4	...	1	...	9	3	...
Girls	...	3375	28	...	6	...	3	...	5	...	...
Totals ...		6675	58	·86	10	·14	4	·05	14	3	...

(o) HEARING.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.					SPECIAL CASES.	
	No. Exam- ined.	Slight Deafness.		Marked Deafness.		Slight Deafness.	Marked Deafness.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.
Boys ...	3300	17	...	2	...	4	...
Girls ...	3375	9	...	4	...	3	1
Totals...	6675	26	·38	6	·08	7	1

At the commencement of the year, 5 boys and 3 girls were being educated in the Deaf and Dumb Institution, Edinburgh. During the year 1 boy was admitted and 1 was discharged, so that the numbers remaining in the Institution at the end of the year are unchanged.

(p) SPEECH.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.					SPECIAL CASES.	
	No. Exam- ined.	Defective Articulation.		Stammering.		Defective Articulation.	Stammer- ing.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	No.
Boys ..	3300	24	...	3	...	...	1
Girls ...	3375	22	...	4	...	1	1
Totals...	6675	46	·68	7	·10	1	2

(q) MENTAL CONDITION.

			SYSTEMATIC CASES.					SPECIAL CASES.		
			No. Exam- ined.	Dull.		Mentally Defective (all grades).		Dull.	Mentally Defective (all grades)	
				No.	%.	No.	%.	No.	No.	
Boys	...	...	3300	25	...	13	...	27	32
Girls	...	...	3375	9	...	6	...	31	11
Totals...			...	6675	34	50	19	28	58	43

The total number of children examined during the year from the mental point of view was 164. Of this number, 62 (45 boys and 17 girls) were certified as being, in the opinion of the Medical Officer concerned, mentally defective. Of these, 56 (40 boys and 16 girls) were classified as "educable in a Special Class or School," and consequently they were retained under the jurisdiction of the Education Committee. The remaining 6 children (5 boys and 1 girl) were certified as "ineducable in a Special Class or School" and notified to the Public Assistance Committee for their care and supervision. Of the remaining 102 children, 92 (52 boys and 40 girls) were found to show varying degrees of retardation between the border line of feeble-mindedness and an I.Q. of approximately 80. In the remaining cases the examination was not completed as I.Q. was obviously over 80. The cases of 2 girls were deferred for further examination.

With regard to children maintained by the Committee in Institutions for the mentally defective, the following table shows the situation clearly:—

	Baldovan Institution.		Larbert Institution.		St. Joseph's Institution.	
	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.	Boys.	Girls.
Resident at 1/8/30	2	2	...	2
Admitted during year
Discharged	1	1	...	...
Resident at 31/7/31	1	1	...	2

Accommodation in Institutions is still limited and consequently difficulty is being experienced in securing beds for suitable cases. In one case application to the Sheriff for a compulsory order for removal to an Institution is in contemplation.

(7) HEART AND CIRCULATION.

SYSTEMATIC CASES.										SPECIAL CASES.				
No. Exam- ined.	Organic Disease.						Functional Disease.		Anæmia.		Organic Disease.		Func- tional Disease.	Anæmia.
	Congenital.		Acquired.		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%				
	No.	%	No.	%							No.	%	No.	%
	Boys ...	3300	...	4	..	8	...	32	...	...	...	No.	No.	3
Girls ...	3375	...	8	...	6	...	43	...	...	...	No.	No.	12	
Totals ...	6675	...	12	.17	14	.20	75	1.12	...	...	No.	No.	15	

(s) LUNGS.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.						SPECIAL CASES.			
	No. Exam- ined.	Chronic Bronchitis.		Tuber- culosis.		Suspected Tuberculosis.		Other Diseases.		
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
Boys...	3300	46	...	...	...	2	...	3	...	...
Girls...	3375	40	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...
Totals	6675	86	1.28	...	...	4	.05	5	.07	...

For cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis treated at East Fortune Sanatorium, see remarks under table (u) on page 21.

(t) NERVOUS SYSTEM.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.								SPECIAL CASES.			
	No. Exam- ined.	Epilepsy		Chorea.		Infantile Paralysis.		Other Diseases.	Epi- lepsy.	Chorea.	Infan- tile Para- lysis.	Other Dis- eases.
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%					
Boys ...	3300	1	...	...	...	12	...	3	...	1	.	...
Girls ...	3375	...	...	3	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	6675	1	·01	3	·04	18	·26	3	·04	1	...	...

(a) TUBERCULOSIS (NON-PULMONARY).

SYSTEMATIC CASES.												SPECIAL CASES.				
No. Exam- ined.	Glands.		Bones and Joints.		Abdomen.		Skin.		Other Forms.		G.	B. & J.	A.	S.	O.F.	
	No.	%.	No.	%.	No.	%.	No.	%.	No.	%.						
Boys ..	3300	8 ...	1 ...	...	2 ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
Girls ...	3075	7 ...	3 ...	...	4 ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...
Total	6675	15 .22	4 .05	...	6 .08	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	...

During the year sixteen cases of Tuberculosis—actual or suspected—were admitted to East Fortune Sanatorium. Of these, six were pulmonary, and ten non-pulmonary. Discharges from the Sanatorium numbered nine—four being pulmonary and five non-pulmonary. At the end of the year seven cases were still in residence—two pulmonary and five non-pulmonary.

(v) RICKETS.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.					SPECIAL CASES.	
	No. Exam- ined.	Slight Cases.		Severe Cases.		Slight Cases.	Severe Cases.
		No.	%.	No.	%.	No.	No.
Boys ...	3300	6	...	4	...	...	...
Girls ...	3375	2	...	6	...	...	...
Totals	6675	8	·11	10	·14	...	...

(w) DEFORMITIES.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.					SPECIAL CASES.	
	No. Exam- ined.	Con- genital.		Ac- quired.		Con- genital.	Ac- quired.
		No.	%.	No.	%.	No.	No.
Boys ...	3300	7	...	14	...	...	2
Girls ...	3375	8	...	11	...	...	1
Totals	6675	15	·22	25	·37	..	3

(x) INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLES I. AND II. (Combined).

Area No.	Aver. No. on Roll during year.	Total No. of Cases.	No. of Cases per 100 of School Population.	Areas in order of prevalence. (lowest first).	No. of Cases of							No. of Children in contact with cases of							Total No. of Con-tacts.
					Chicken Pox.	Diphtheria.	(German Measles.	Measles.	Mumps.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Chicken Pox.	Diphtheria.	(German Measles.	Measles.	Mumps.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	
1	1354	147	10·8	6	125	2	...	1	4	3	12	90	10	1	...	...	4	2	107
2	3019	264	8·7	5	193	32	4	4	4	19	8	53	66	8	...	...	26	1	154
3	1347	77	5·7	3	27	32	...	...	12	6	...	5	68	...	...	...	9	...	82
4	2484	126	5·0	2	65	36	...	16	...	8	1	14	24	...	7	...	6	...	51
5	2405	275	11·0	7	51	30	...	1	125	22	46	36	61	...	2	163	42	56	360
6	3634	77	2·1	1	2	19	...	...	...	15	41	2	19	...	...	...	21	4	46
7	2258	163	7·2	4	22	15	...	2	95	11	18	...	11	...	...	...	22	...	33
Totals ...	16501	1129	6·8	...	485	166	4	24	240	84	126	200	259	9	9	163	130	63	833

TABLE III.

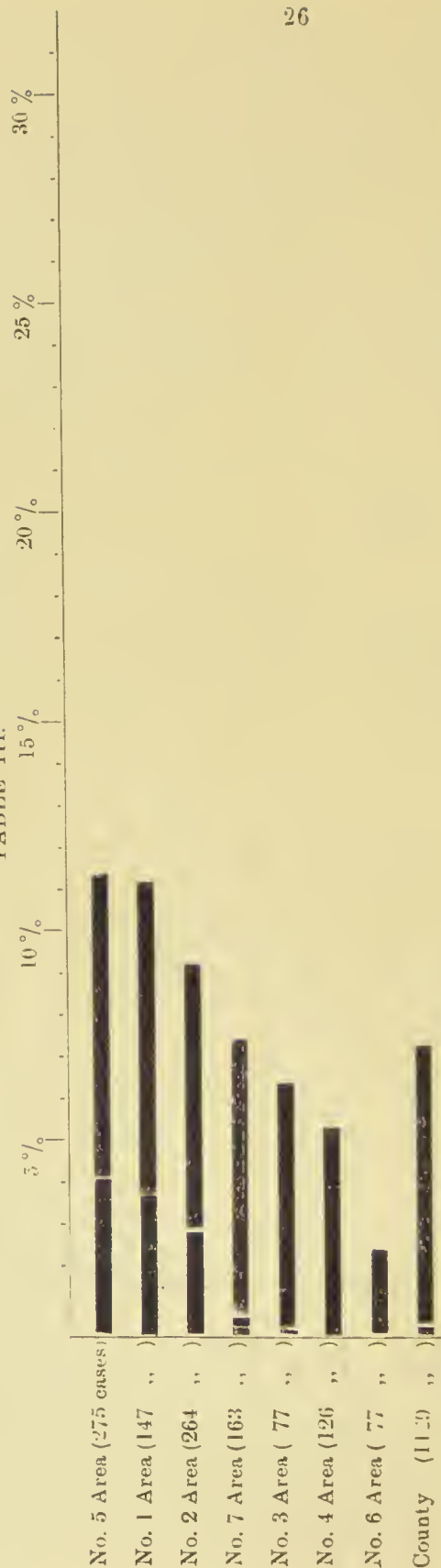


Table III, shows in graphic form the percentage incidence of infectious diseases in relation to school population in the various School Management Committee Areas as a whole.

TABLE IV.

Table IV. shows in graphic form the actual number of cases of the different infectious diseases in the county. Chicken Pox was the most prevalent with 485 cases out of a total of 1129. Mumps was next with 240 cases, followed by Diphtheria (166), Whooping Cough (126), Scarlet Fever (84), Measles (24), and German Measles (4). Taking the infectious diseases all over, the prevalence this year is just 35.3 % of what it was in the preceding year. This diminution has undoubtedly been a factor in the attainment of this year's record attendance of 93 %.

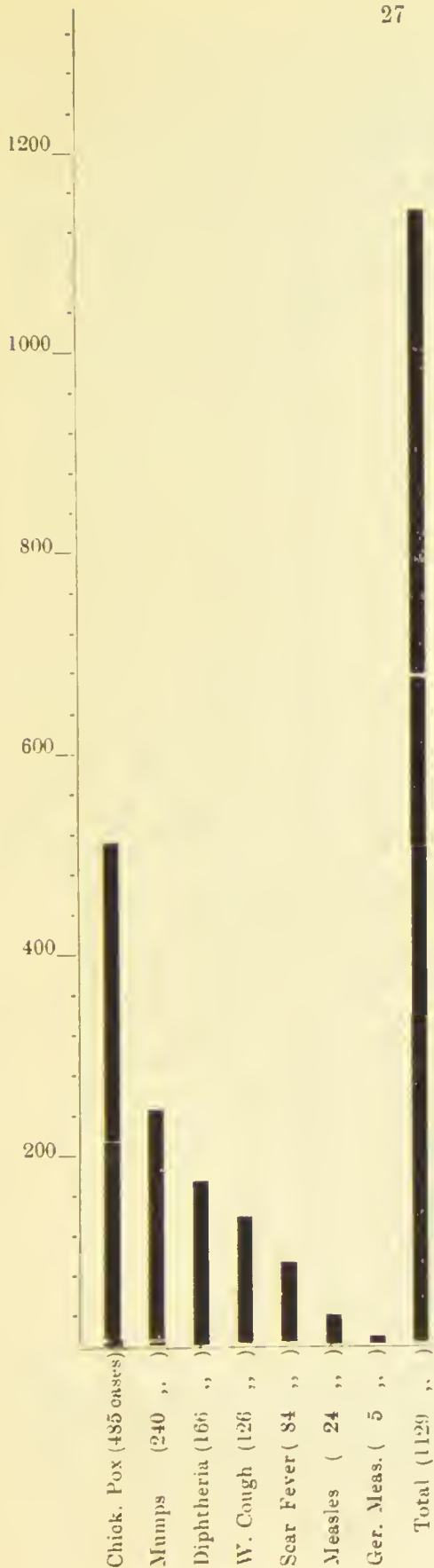


TABLE V.

	School Management Committee Areas.						
Year.	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.
1920-21	1	4	5	2	6	3	7
1921-22	6	7	2	4	1	3	5
1922-23	4	6	5	7	3	2	1
1923-24	6	7	3	2	5	4	1
1924-25	1	6	7	2	5	4	3
1925-26	5	7	2	4	6	1	3
1926-27	6	4	1	2	3	5	7
1927-28	5	6	2	1	4	3	7
1928-29	5	4	7	6	3	2	1
1929-30	4	7	3	6	5	2	1
1930-31	6	5	3	2	7	1	4

The above table shows the order of the areas with regard to the prevalence of infectious disease during the past 11 years (lowest first).

(y) OTHER DISEASES OR DEFECTS.

	SYSTEMATIC CASES.			SPECIAL CASES.
	No. Examined.	Number of Diseases or Defects.	%	Number of Diseases or Defects.
Boys ...	3000	36	...	3
Girls ...	3375	25	...	7
Totals ...	6675	61	91	17

8.—SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR CLASSES.

The Special Classes at Armadale and South Queensferry Public and Broxburn High Schools continued in existence during the year. The following table shows various details regarding their composition and working:—

	Armadale P.S.	Broxburn H.S.	So. Queens- ferry P.S.
No. of Children on Roll as at 9/9/30	25	18	15
Do. do. as at 16/7/31	20	14	13
Number of M.D. children	24	18	12
Nmber of very dull children	5	1	5
Attendance—%	89·69	87·27	92
Range of I.Q.	50 to 77	50 to 79	42 to 82
Range of ages (actual)	8 to 15	10 to 15	7 to 14
No. leaving class during year	9	5	4
No. admitted to class during year...	4	1	2

It is to be noted that new regulations dealing with the training of teachers for work in Special Classes were issued by the Department during the year. The main point in these regulations involved a marked reduction in the length of such courses of training from 1 year to 3 months. It is hoped under these conditions to send suitable members of the Committee's teaching staff for training as opportunity arises.

9.—ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND PERSONAL HYGIENE OF THE CHILDREN.

(a) PHYSICAL EXERCISES.—Up to the close of the year, the staff engaged in the scheme of physical education was composed of the following members :—

- (1) Three whole-time instructors.
- (2) Six whole-time instructresses.

All of these are recognised under Chapter VI., and devote their whole time to teaching. There is at present no Supervisor of Physical Education, but a general supervision is exercised by the Medical Officers.

(b) BATHS.—See Report for year ending 31st July, 1921.

(c) PERSONAL HYGIENE.—In certain schools at the commencement of the session an alteration was made in the length of the school period in order to permit a greater amount of time being given to physical education including personal hygiene. The existing system of 8 daily school periods of 45 minutes each was changed to one of 9 daily periods of 40 minutes each. The new arrangement has proved satisfactory in all respects and is well worth extending to other schools as may be found convenient.

10.—ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FEEDING OF CHILDREN.

The following tabular statement has been kindly supplied by the Supervisor of Domestic Economy. It gives a very full analysis of what has been done during the year in regard to school meals.

DETAILS OF FEEDING CENTRES.

School.	Opened.	Closed.	No. of Days in O'ration.	No. of Meals.		Charge to Pupil per Wk.	Nature of Meal.
				Total.	Av. per Day.		
Abercorn P.	3/11/30	2/3/31	77	3745	48.6	5d.	Soup
Bathgate Acad.	19/11/30	6/3/31	68	3613	53.1	10d.	Do.
Blackness P.	3/11/30	13/2/31	66	2376	36.0	4½d.	Do.
Fauldhouse P.	17/11/30	20/3/31	80	3528	44.1	5d.	Do.
Linlithgow Ac.	3/11/30	1/4/31	101	2491	24.6	5d.	Do.
Linlithgow P.	29/9/30	1/4/31	124	4000	32.2	3d.	Cocoa only
Linlithgow R.C.	2/11/30	1/4/31	99	3975	40.1	5d.	Soup
S. Queensferry P.	12/1/31	21/1/31	8	230	28.7	5d.	Do.
Whitburn P.	24/11/30	20/3/31	75	4447	59.2	5d.	Do.
Winchburgh P.	10/11/30	13/2/31	57	1910	33.5	5d.	Do.
Totals			755	30,315	40.1		

It is a great pity that the So. Queensferry centre was in operation such a short time. It was found impossible to continue on account of lack of support from the pupils.

11.—ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEDICAL ATTENDANCE.

(a) MINOR AILMENTS: 1, 2, 3, and 5.—The number of clinics for the treatment of minor ailments was the same as in previous years, namely—16. The numerical details of the work carried on therein are given in the following table:—

	Ears.	Nose. &c.	Eyes.	Skin.		General Totals.	
				Head.	Body.		
No. of Cases ...	553	79	729	1081	407	4903	7752
No. of Attendances	10698	1822	10515	10131	3229	40807	77212

The number of cases treated and the number of attendances were respectively 7752 and 77212. The corresponding figures last year were 7152 and 76064.

MINOR AILMENTS: (4) RINGWORM & FAVUS, and (5) OTHER DISEASES.—See Report for year ending 31st July, 1921, page 36.

(b) DEFECTIVE VISION.—The following report and table have been compiled by Dr. C. B. Ross:—

The examination of school children for errors of refraction was carried out at Mid Street Public School, Bathgate, Broxburn High School and Bo'ness Old Academy, these centres being of easy access to practically all pupils in the County.

During the year ending July 31st, 1931, 431 cases were examined. This shows a marked increase upon the number for last year, the increase being largely accounted for by the additional eye groups now included in the scheme of medical inspection.

Spectacles were prescribed in 366 cases and in 42 cases, where glasses were already being worn, no change was found to be required. In the remaining 23 cases glasses were not considered necessary.

The accompanying table gives full particulars of the conditions found:—

Hypermetropia	...	...	...	...	85
Hypermetropic Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	175
Myopia	...	...	...	...	39
Myopic Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	46
Mixed Astigmatism	...	...	...	...	63
Internal Strabismus	...	...	...	...	127
External Strabismus	...	...	...	...	8
Amblyopia (one eye)	...	...	...	...	29
Corneal Nebulae	...	...	...	...	18
Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	12
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	...	3
Congenital Nystagmus	...	...	...	...	7
Choroiditis	...	...	...	...	2
Optic Atrophy	...	...	...	...	2
Interstitial Keratitis	...	...	...	...	1

(c) DEFECTIVE TEETH.—The Dentist, Mr. Allanwood Neilson, has submitted the following report regarding the work carried out in his department during the year:—

In submitting my Second Annual Report, it gives me great pleasure and satisfaction to be able to state that considerable progress has been made in all directions.

ORGANISATION.—As indicated in my last report a very considerable part of my time last year was devoted to organisation. This is now bearing fruit in the shape of increased efficiency and we have now reached a stage, I think, where our organisation leaves little to be de-

sired. The smallest details have been carefully considered and economy of time has been stressed almost to its utmost.

The demands upon my time for this purpose are now practically negligible which leaves me free to devote my entire efforts to Propaganda and Treatment.

PROPAGANDA.—Under this head we have made rapid and effective strides and no opportunity has been missed of impressing on child, parent and teacher the tremendous importance of a clean and healthy mouth. In the case of the latter I might add that it has been a very great pleasure for me to find that the teachers are genuinely enthusiastic in this work.

I consider this side of my work by far the most important, as treatment without after care on the part of the patient is of little real value.

As indicated in my last report I have started an experiment in connection with a regular monthly inspection of the teeth and cleaning equipment of pupils in certain schools. This has now passed beyond the experimental stage and is being carried out on the first Tuesday of each month by the Headmasters and teachers in 33 schools and I hope to have it operating in the remainder of the schools very soon. The scheme is working splendidly, due, in great measure, to the enthusiasm and interest of the teaching staff, and the improvement in the condition of the teeth is most marked.

I am preparing a separate report giving the details of the scheme and shall be glad to supply a copy to anyone interested.

TREATMENT.—It will be seen from the accompanying table that the number of children examined and treated is lower than that of last year. This is explained by the fact that last session it was among the younger children principally that treatment was carried out whereas children of all ages have been treated during the present session. These children it will be readily understood require much more treatment than the younger ones. A further examination of the table will reveal the fact that Extractions, Fillings, Scalings, and other Operations are all up considerably from last year also a great deal of work has been done under other heads not previously dealt with. It will be observed that three gold fillings have been done. These were cases where any other type of filling would be definitely unsatisfactory. The cost of the gold was met by the parent. Also nine dentures were fitted at actual cost price. It was found necessary to extract 32 teeth for one pupil and to fit full upper and lower dentures.

Greater efficiency in treatment will result when the Clinics in Bathgate and Bo'ness are fitted up. At present a foot engine is used, the chair is unsatisfactory and the light is bad. Modern equipment will certainly assist materially.

(Signed) ALLANWOOD NEILSON.

School	No. of Children examined.	No. of Children requiring treatment	No. of Children re-inspected.	No. of Children treated.	No. of Extractions.		No. of Permanent Fillings.			Scaling.	Silver Nitrate Treatment.	Root Treatment.	(Gum Treatment.	Cut Fraenum.	Regulations.	Dentures.	Other Operations.	Parents Interviewed.
					Temporary	Permanent	Anal-gum.	Pore-lain.	Gold.									
Stonyburn P.	543	346	250	268	260	152	186	29	...	228	35	2	...	2	3	3	24	10
Whitburn P.	658	411	394	333	285	138	274	57	1	285	18	2	9	1	4	...	27	15
Longridge P.	62	42	20	22	21	7	17	...	...	15	22	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Blackridge P.	576	414	163	316	281	152	339	40	...	282	17	1	12	4	1	...	49	13
Armadale P.	970	748	151	439	567	333	595	67	...	376	22	2	34	4	..	2	103	32
Woodend P.	72	27	2	26	30	10	18	...	...	22	34	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Armadale R.C.	167	95	48	64	39	21	82	5	...	57	52	..	...	...	...	...	16	...
Westfield P	130	89	54	51	64	17	65	5	...	46	26	2	...	...	1	...	14	6
Torphichen P	106	72	51	41	45	35	45	1	...	35	32	...	...	...	...	..	6	...
Bathgate W.	91	50	...	25	93	8	21	...	...	...	21	...	...	...	...	...	7	...
Bathgate P.	704	632	286	185	123	149	282	104	2	177	26	3	8	...	...	..	67	9
Specials	47	46	...	46	102	48	21	10	...	8	62	3	...	...	...	4	5	20
Totals	4126	2972	1413	1816	1910	1070	1945	318	3	1531	367	15	63	11	9	9	322	105

Last year's Totals. 5690 3673

2063 1753 750 1292 151 1234 2336

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(d) OPERATIONS.—These continue to be arranged for by the parents of the children requiring them either with the family doctor or, through him, with one or other of the large hospitals. The total number of operations so carried out during the year amounted to 323, the great majority of these being for conditions of the nose and throat.

(e) DEFORMITIES.—Operative or remedial treatment of these is usually carried out under the terms of the preceding paragraph. The cases mentioned in last year's report came up for periodic review and showed progress on satisfactory lines. New cases occurring during the year were referred to the physical education staff when that procedure was considered likely to prove beneficial.

12.—STUDENTS IN PRELIMINARY TRAINING.

During the year 14 candidates (1 boy and 13 girls) were examined. All were found to be in good health and fit for employment as teachers, but it is to be noted that 50 % of them were in need of some dental attention. The average age of the 13 girls examined was $16\frac{9}{12}$ years and the average height and weight were, respectively, 63·25 inches and 116·15 pounds.

The following table gives the location of the students in the four secondary schools :—

	Boys.	Girls.
Bathgate Academy ... ..	...	7
Bo'ness Academy ... ..	...	1
Broxburn High School	1	5
Linlithgow Academy ... ..	...	...
Totals	1	13

13.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Approximately 60 examinations were made in the Education Office during the year. These were mainly examinations of young and delicate children commencing school life, or children who had had some serious illness and regarding whose return to school there was some reasonable doubt. The helpful co-operation of parents and teachers was of great help in these cases.

Other work of much interest was the reviewing of the medical histories of candidates for employment as teachers in the Education Committee's service. The total number of candidates was 64, an

increase of 37 over the figures of the previous year. One of the cases was referred for further consideration—the others were all in good health and in possession of satisfactory life histories.

Finally, brief reference may be made to the scheme for the provision of a daily ration of milk to the pupils in the Infant Department of Blackburn Public School, which commenced in January, and ended in July, 1931. Each child was provided with one half pint of milk daily during that period and the results confirmed the experience gained in other areas where similar schemes had been tried. The children gained height and weight more rapidly than similar children in a neighbouring school who received no milk ration and were observed as a control. In addition, however, to this definitely measurable accompaniment of the feeding it was also noted by the teachers that the children's alertness and attention, particularly in the afternoons, were quite obviously improved.

John Hunter.

Medical Officer.

Education Offices,

Bathgate, October, 1931.

